

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-14

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 197977

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, BEXP, KS

SUBJECT: BULLET-PROOF SHIELD FOR PRESIDENT PARK

REF: (A) SEOUL 5920, (B) STATE 195225

ATTENTION RSO

1. DEPT HAS BEEN INFORMED BY MAJOR MANUFACTURER OF ARMORED PLASTIC GLASS, WHICH RAN COMPUTER CHECK ON COMMERCIAL AVAILABILITIES, THAT THERE IS NO ALREADY MANUFACTURED MATERIAL AVAILABLE IN US TODAY WHICH MEETS ADD REQUIREMENTS OF PROTECTION AGAINST M-1 RIFLE FIRE. READ PLASTICS IN ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND PRODUCES PRODUCT WHICH IS ONLY EFFECTIVE AGAINST HANDGUNS. AT 100 FEET AN M-1 ROUND WILL GO THROUGH FOUR INCHES OF THIS MATERIAL.

2. PROTECTIVE DEVICES CORPORATION (SEE REF B) CAN MANUFACTURE ARMORED GLASS CAPABLE OF WITHSTANDING M-1 RIFLE

FIRE IN SIZES DESCRIBED IN REF A, WITH EXCEPTION OF 1 MTR BY 2 MTR PIECE, WHICH COMPANY ENGINEERS STATE IS TOO LARGE TO PROVIDE DESIRED PROTECTION. THEY SUGGEST 2 MTR SQUARE PIECES BE USED INSTEAD. ORDER CAN BE FINISHED 10 DAYS
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AFTER RECEIVING INSTRUCTIONS TO BEGIN PRODUCTION. BECAUSE
OF OTHER COMMITMENTS, THIS ORDER CAN ONLY BE
ACCOMPLISHED BY OVERTIME WORK AT NIGHT. COST WOULD BE ABOUT

DOLS 4250 FOB LOS ANGELES AND MATERIALS CRATED FOR
SHIPMENT WILL WEIGH APPROXIMATELY 660 POUNDS. COMPANY
IS LOCATED AN HOUR FROM LOS ANGELES AND CAN DELIVER
TO LA AIRPORT FOR DIRECT AIR SHIPMENT TO SEOUL ABOARD
KAL.

3. BELIEVE FOREGOING IS BEST RESPONSE WE CAN MAKE TO ADD
DESIRE THAT MATERIAL PROTECT AGAINST M-1 RIFLE FIRE.
RECOMMEND THAT YOU ADVISE ADD TO INSTRUCT KOREAN EMBASSY
WASHINGTON TO ORDER MATERIAL FROM PROTECTIVE DEVICES
CORPORATION IMMEDIATELY IN COORDINATION WITH DEPARTMENT.
KISSINGER

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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